any other appointments under the Government of India i.e. based on the job requirements of the posts and suitability of the officers available for such appointments.

(b) and (c) In view of the answer to (a) above, (b) and (c) do not arise.

Indians being appointed as diplomats by the Pretoria Regime

1299. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Indians in South Africa are taking up assignments under the Pretoria regime;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these Indians are being trained as diplomats and propagandists and posted to Western countries; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to advise its nationals in South Africa not to do anything which will tarnish the image of their motherland or go against India's anti-apartheid policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) It has been reported that some South African nationals of Indian origin have taken up assignments including as diplomats with the South African Government. These persons would certainly be well aware of Government's firm opposition to the policy of apartheid. Government deplores the willingness of these persons to serve the racist regime of South Africa.

Centre for Advanced Computer Technology

1300. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are setting up a centre for advanced computer technology for the design and development of parallel processors in Pune;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to take over all the research and development facilities, already existing in the States in the area of computer technology; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. No such proposal is before the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

National Management Programme

1301. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are proposing to launch a national management programme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the programme is designed to cover civil and defence officers as well as executives drawn from private and public sector enterprises; and

(c) if so, whether the officers of the State Governments also will be eligible to join these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Management Development Institute (MDI) Gurgaon have offered to run such a programme. The programme has the support of this Ministry.

(b) The programme is designed for officers belonging to All India and Group A Central Services as well as Senior Executives of public and private Sector organisations.

(c) No, Sir. According to the present design of the programme, officers belonging to the State Civil Services will not be eligible to join this programme.